

Message Text

SECRET POSS DUPE

PAGE 01 NOUAKC 00451 261054Z

42

ACTION AF-04

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 IGA-01 SP-02 L-01

EB-03 /031 W

----- 015208

R 260915Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5192

INFO AMEMBASSY DAKAR UNN

S E C R E T NOUAKCHOTT 0451

LIMDIS

FOR AF DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY BLAKE FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAKDRE EAID MR

SUBJECT: MAURITANIAN REQUEST FOR EMERGENCY FOOD AID

REF: STATE 41561, STATE 43063, NOUAKCHOTT 441

FROM THIS VANTAGE POINT, IT WOULD APPEAR THAT CONSIDERATIONS OF (A) HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE TO REAL NEED, AND (B) POTENTIAL POLITICAL ADVANTAGE SHOULD BE ACCORDED EQUAL WEIGHT BY USG DECISION MAKERS AS THEY EXAMINE MAURITANIAN REQUEST FOR EMERGENCY FOOD AID. (POTENTIAL POLITICAL DIVIDENDS OF GRANT FOOD PROGRAM WERE EXAMINED IN NOUAKCHOTT 177; NEED AND THUS HUMANITARIAN FACTORS HAVE BEEN EXAMINED IN SERIES OF MISSION MESSAGES.) BUT FORMULATION UTILIZED REFTELS ("AID/W PREPARED TO CONSIDER", "AID/W CONCERNED", ETC.) SUGGESTS THAT ONLY CONSIDERATIONS EXAMINED THUS FAR HAVE BEEN TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF FOOD PROGRAM: PROOF OF NEED, LOGISTICS, CONTROLS. HOPEFULLY POLITICAL AND DIPLOMATIC FACTORS WILL ALSO BE EXAMINED IN DETAIL BY SENIOR STATE AS WELL AS AID (AND PERHAPS AGRICULTURE) OFFICERS AT AN EARLY DATE. I AM ALSO TROUBLED BY POSSIBILITY THAT THE VERY REAL CONCERNS (SHARED AND INITIALLY SPELLED OUT BY THIS MISSION) RE POTENTIAL DIVERSION OF GRANT FOOD TO NON-MAURITANIAN

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 NOUAKC 00451 261054Z

OR MILITARY RECIPIENTS MAY BE ALLOWED TO RULE OUT AT AN UNNECESSARILY EARLY STAGE OF DECISION-MAKING PROCESS

THE TYPE OF GRANT PROGRAM WHICH COULD BRING IMMEDIATE AND DIRECT POLITICAL DIVIDENDS. CONCRETE DEMONSTRATION VIA FOOD PROGRAM OF US SUPPORT FOR MAURITANIAN SAHARA POLICY UNQUESTIONABLY CONTAINS HIGHER ELEMENT OF RISK OF DIVERSION THAN CONSERVATIVE, RISK-MINIMIZING PROGRAM OF DELIVERIES TO SOUTH AND EAST. BUT ELIMINATION OF RISK SIMULTANEOUSLY ELIMINATES POSSIBILITY OF MAJOR, IMMEDIATE POLITICAL GAIN. I WOULD SIMPLY URGE THAT WE NOT PERMIT THOSE WHO ARE RIGHTLY WORRIED ABOUT END-USE-CHECKS TO RULE OUT THE MORE RISKY POLITICAL IMPACT ROUTE WITHOUT AN EXPLICIT AND SYSTEMATIC SORTING OUT FIRST OF ALL THE PROS AND CONS BY ALL CONCERNED.HANDYSIDE

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DISASTER RELIEF, FOOD ASSISTANCE, AFDROUGHT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976NOUAKC00451
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760072-1028
From: NOUAKCHOTT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760210/aaaaaibz.tel
Line Count: 73
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: 76 STATE 41561, 76 STATE 43063, 76 NOUAKCHOTT 441
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25 JUN 2004 by ElyME>; APPROVED <28 JUN 2004 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MAURITANIAN REQUEST FOR EMERGENCY FOOD AID
TAGS: EAID, AEMR, MR, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006